

PRESS RELEASE



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State Higher Education Commission Announces Community College Transfer Data Website

December 13, 2002 — Sacramento — The California Postsecondary Education Commission (CPEC) announced today the availability of a dynamic website on community college transfer. “California students and policy makers can now examine for each community college in the state how many students are transferring to California State University and University of California campuses,” said Robert L. Moore, the Commission’s Executive Director. The new “first-of-its-kind” website provides data for years 1989-2002, and allows students to see which public four-year colleges are more likely to enroll transfer students from specific community colleges.

“California has a long-standing commitment of offering community college students opportunities to transfer to four-year colleges and universities in order to extend their education through the bachelors degree or even higher levels,” Moore said. “Students now have another tool to assist them in making decisions about how they may best pursue their educational goals,” he noted. Roughly 60,000 students transferred from California community colleges to the state’s public four-year institutions last year.

The Commission is currently examining the effects of budget reductions proposed by the Governor on students who intend to enroll at a public college or university next year. “We are extremely concerned that major budget reductions for California colleges and universities could mean less access for California students,” said Alan Arkatov, the Commission’s Chairman. “During the last recession in the early 1990s, we saw a precipitous decline in enrollment at all three public segments of higher education, including a decline in the number of students able to transfer from community colleges to four-year institutions, he added.”

The new community college transfer information is a powerful addition to the Commission’s website that includes 25 years of comprehensive student enrollment and educational achievement information.

The Commission is the state’s independent higher education coordinating and planning body. It advises the Governor and Legislature on higher education policy issues and consists of 16 members, nine of whom represent the general public, five who represent the major systems of California education (the California Community Colleges, the California State University, the University of California, the independent colleges and universities, and the State Board of Education), and two student representatives.

The new community college transfer information website can be found at www.cpec.ca.gov/online/data/transferpathway.asp. Additional information about higher education in California may be obtained through the general website of the Postsecondary Education Commission at www.cpec.ca.gov.